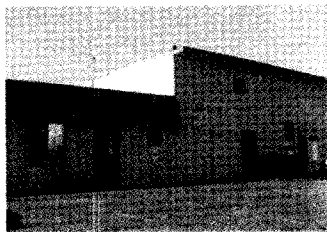


## Public Testimony

From

Missoula Developmental Service Corporation

Health and Human Services Sub-Committee  
2011



20 years ago through the vision of the legislators before you, monies were appropriated for community based services to provide 24 hour supports to adults with severe developmental disabilities.

Their vision created Missoula Developmental Service Corporation. Services begun in October 1990.

Pictured are our main office and our newest and 9<sup>th</sup> Group Home.

This testimonial presentation provides just a glimpse of what we do for the people we feel privileged to know and work for.



### Who We Serve

**61 clients - 58 for full services & 3 for day services**

### Primary / Secondary Health Conditions

- 100% ♦ Primary Condition – Developmental Disabilities
- 55% ♦ No Communication
- 45% ♦ Communicates – verbal, gestures, signs
- 42% ♦ Mental Illness
- 38% ♦ Medically Fragile
- 20% ♦ Physically Impaired
- 15% ♦ Hearing Impaired
- 5% ♦ Visual Impairment




Dennis moved to MDSC on October 29, 1990 and was the first client to move into our services. Dennis is successfully employed in the community, independently takes care of his cats, and helps with maintaining his house.

Dennis was recently featured in the Fall publication of *The Apostrophe Magazine*. If you get a chance please read his moving story at <http://apostrophejournalgraphicsdigital.com/current>. His story is on page 46.




Vickie also moved to MDSC in the fall of 1990. She is non-verbal and a brittle diabetic. Vickie lives in Kent Street, the first 24-hour Medical Group Home in the State of Montana. Although Vickie's health can be challenging, she worked for the University of Montana mailroom services for 19 years.

Vickie loves life, as you can see!



MDSC  
OPENING DOORS TRANSFORMING LIVES




This picture says it all...Steve loves his mom.

Steve entered MDSC services February 1991.



Upon entering services Steve had severe aggressive behaviors towards people and property. Through effective behavioral management intervention plans Steve has learned skills to keep his maladaptive behaviors at bay.

This past summer Steve visited his mom in Washington – his first visit to his mom's home in 20 years.

Steve's quality of life has certainly improved through the services he receives at MDSC.



MDSC  
OPENING DOORS TRANSFORMING LIVES

Providing recreational opportunities are important for quality of life experiences.

The top picture is from a recent boat trip to the Gates of the Mountain.

The bottom picture is from an outing closer to home – Jellystone Park in Frenchtown.

Although we have different needs or abilities, everyone enjoys adventures...again, another *must* for MDSC's services.



Participating in everyday chores and activities is one of the key goals for our services.



Travis helps prepare dinner for his housemates, while John enjoys decorating the tree.

Travis has been part of MDSC since July 2002 while John has been receiving services since February 1991.



These slides are just a glimpse into the services provided by MDSC. I thank you for taking time to view this presentation. I realize you have many decisions ahead of you in the months ahead. But I plea with you to support the most vulnerable citizens of Montana. Therefore, I ask the following:

1. Continue funding for disabilities services at the current FY 2010 levels; do not support the Governor's proposed budget of decreasing funding by 3%.
2. Support a 1% provider rate increase for FY 12 with the anticipated reserves in the State Budget. Funds go directly to support people who cannot support themselves.
3. Support a 3% provider rate increase for FY '13 which matches the proposed Governor's Budget for State Employees.